ices posted in Railway Board's office is governed by following tenure rules:-

Deputy Directors	-3 Years
Joint Directors	-4 Years
Directors/Executive Directors	-5 Years

The above tenure rules are normally adhered to except in a few cases where the tenure is extended in the exigencies of service. Promotion is made in terms of the extant rules.

(b) to (e). Transfer, on completion of tenure is under consideration in respect of four Executive Directors/Directors. Officers are not necessarily transferred on promotion.

[*Translation*]

Closing of Halts at Saharanpur – Delhi Route

5383. SHRI RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are incurring losses on all the passenger trains on Saharanpur–Delhi route via Shamli–Shahadra railway line, if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) whether it is proposed to close down some railway stations and halts on this route;

(c) if so, the names of such stations and the time by which these are proposed to be closed;

(d) whether the Government propose to run these passenger trains in day time and the goods trains in night time ; and

(e) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No specific study to ascertain profitability of passenger trains alone on Shamli-Shahdara section has been conducted.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is proposal to close Nusratabad Kharkhari, Ahera, Baoli, Bhudpur. Khandrawali, Gujran Balwa, Silawar, Sona Arjunpur and Bhankla on this, route, However, no time limit for their closure has been fixed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Air Agreement with Pakistan

5384. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bilateral agreement has been signed between India and Pakistan for operation of air services between both the countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM(SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir . Bilateral Air Services Agreement between India and Pakistan was signed on 16th July, 1976. Air talks were held recently between the two countries from 10th to 13th June, 1991 only to review the capacity provided on various routes between the two countries.

[*Translation*]

Power supply to Andhra Pradesh

5385. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to supply 135 Megawatt of Power in addition to 180 Megawatt by the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB) is committed for supply of 150 MVA Power to Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) . VSP has already captive power plant of 180 MW capacity. The present drawal of power from APSEB is 100 MVA, and it is learnt that the VSP has requested deferment of supply of the balance 50 MVA. APSEB is prepared ed to give additional 50 MVA as and when required by VSP.

[*English*]

Vayudoot service to Bolangir, Orissa

5386. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to link Bolangir district in Orissa with the Yayudoot services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Due to the heavy losses being sustained by it, Vayudoot has been compelled to reduce its network drastically. The air linking of new stations is not a feasible proposition for Vayudoot at the present juncture.

Action plan for ITDC Hotels

5387. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARIBHANDARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government proposed to improve the efficiency and profitability of ITDC hotels;

(b) if so, whether any action Plan has been drawn for this purpose;

(c) the names of hotels to be covered under this plan;

(d) whether the interests of employees of these hotels would be protected under this Plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). ITDC owns and operates 25 hotels in the country. It is Govt's endeavour to improve the efficiency and profitability of all ITDC hotels. The efforts being made by the Government/ITDC to improve the performance of hotels *inter-alia* include aggressive marketing and sales efforts, direct contact with major tour operators/travel agents to promote traffic to India, offering incentives to sales representatives etc.

(d) to (f). Yes , Sir. The interest of employees of ITDC hotels would be protected through their involvement in the efforts mentioned above.

Supply of wagons at Guntur Station

5388. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual demand of wagons and the number of wagons allotted to Andhra Pradesh during 1989-90, 1990-91 and upto June 1991; and

(b) the reasons for short supply and the